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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/663,586	09/18/2000	Glenn Adler	US000231	4088

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Corporate Patent Counsel
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EXAMINER

BECKER, SHAWN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/663,586

Applicant(s)

ADLER, GLENN

Examiner

Shawn M. Becker

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 20-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 20-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to communication filed 7/9/04.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 22 is objected to because of the following informalities: one of the instances of “and means” in line two of the claim should be removed. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-9 and 20-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sony CyberFrame PHD-A55 (hereinafter CyberFrame) as supported by the product review in TechTV (hereinafter TechTV), the product description in Outpost.com (hereinafter Outpost), and the Sony Hong Kong Press Release dated April 19, 1999 (hereinafter Sony Press Release) and the Announcement entitled “Sony to Sell Liquid Crystal TV with Memory Stick” by Nikkei Industrial Daily (hereinafter Nikkei).

In the first paragraph of the Sony Press Release, it is established that the CyberFrame was released 4/19/1999. The first two paragraphs on page 2 of the Sony Press Release describe the CyberFrame product. Therefore, the CyberFrame product was made available to the public on 4/19/1999 and the TechTV and Outpost articles describe features of that CyberFrame product.

Referring to claims 1, 20, 22, 24, and 26, the CyberFrame is a monitor having an interface with a storage medium reader that reads a digital image stored on a storage medium.

See the second paragraph in TechTV that describes how memory sticks (storage medium) are read to display images from a digital camera. There inherently has to be a controller to process and transfer the image from the memory stick to be displayed in the display screen of the CyberFrame. There necessarily must be some sort of controller/processor for moving the image data/file from the memory stick to the display screen. The third paragraph in TechTV describes a user-interface operable to enable issuing a command to the controller to control the reading and display of the digital images on the display screen. See how the user can navigate through the images, rotate the images, and set up a slide show.

The CyberFrame has a mode of operation that enables display of a digital image from a storage medium (Memory Stick™) that does not require connection to a PC, however, the CyberFrame is not described as a monitor for a PC or as having a mode of operation that enables the display of a video signal from a PC. However, Nikkei discloses TV with a Memory Stick™ that has a terminal that allows the TV to be used as a computer monitor (i.e. it may connect to a PC to display a digital image from the PC). See the second paragraph in the Nikkei article. The TV uses the same Memory Stick™ technology to read images from a digital camera as does the CyberFrame and thus may display the digital images in the same way as the CyberFrame (i.e. independent from the connection state to the PC). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the same display capabilities and user-interface for displaying digital images from a Memory Stick™ as shown in the CyberFrame within the TV/Monitor in the article by Nikkei in order to provide a large screen view of the pictures from the digital camera.

Referring to claims 2 and 26, the monitor of CyberFrame and Nikkei inherently has to have an image buffer in order to perform the slide show capabilities as described in the fourth

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feature of Outpost. The images selected by the user to be displayed in intervals are read by the memory stick reader (storage medium reader) and transferred to an image buffer for storage and display on the display screen.

Referring to claims 3 and 26, the controller of the monitor of CyberFrame and Nikkei is also used to perform a task, unrelated to the interface for controlling the digital image. See in the Specifications of Outpost, how there is a date and time display and a clock set, which must be performed by a controller. Also, the TV of Nikkei may be used for PlayStation™ game consoles. See second paragraph.

Referring to claim 4, the controller of the monitor of CyberFrame and Nikkei processes the read digital image into a format that is compatible with the signal input of the display. See the JPEG playback in the first listed Feature in Outpost.

Referring to claims 5-6, the CyberFrame's user-interface enables the user to manipulate the image displayed, such as deleting or protecting images (stored data), sequencing the display of multiple images (slide show), resizing and rotating images. See the third paragraph of TechTV and the fourth, sixth, and seventh Features in Outpost.

Referring to claim 7, the manipulations are performed via on-screen menu selection through the user-interface. One of the Specifications in Outpost is an on-screen menu.

Referring to claim 8, the display screen is an LCD. See the second Feature in Outpost.

Referring to claim 9, the storage medium is a memory stick. See the first paragraph in Outpost.

Referring to claim 21, the interface of CyberFrame and Nikkei communicates with a PC via a second cable, the interface being operative to forward a video signal from the PC to the

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monitor in a PC mode and to forward the video signal from the interface to the monitor in an interface mode. See the second paragraph of Nikkei, which describes a separate terminal for connecting to a computer and acting as a computer monitor.

Referring to claims 23 and 25, the monitor of CyberFrame and Nikkei includes means for storing data transferred from a storage device on a PC to the storage device and means for transferring data from the storage device for the monitor to a storage device on the PC. See the 5th paragraph of TechTV, which describes getting images onto the Memory Stick™ via a PC. Also, see the 4th paragraph on page 2 of the Sony Press Release, which describes how images are transferable between the Memory Stick™ and a PC.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the CyberFrame, Nikkei, and the article entitled "Sony's \$900 Picture Frame", by Mark Gimein.

The storage medium reader of CyberFrame and Nikkei is only explicitly stated as reading memory sticks. However, as Gimein points out, other types of storage medium (formats) do a good job of storing digital images and other data. See the third paragraph on page 2. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the storage medium reader of the monitor with Memory Stick™ reader of CyberFrame and Nikkei to be able to read two or more

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different storage media types to make the monitor compatible with other vendor's storage technology as supported by Gimein.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 and 20-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

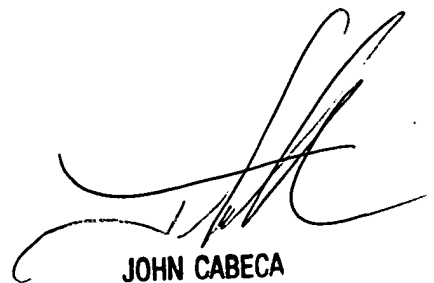
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawn M. Becker whose telephone number is (571) 272-4046. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

smb


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